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SUBJECT: NORWAY--2009 TIP REPORT: PRESS GUIDANCE AND
DEMARCHE

REF: A. 2009 STATE 59732
[1](#)B. 2009 STATE 5577

[1](#)1. This is an action cable; see paras 5 through 7 and 10.

[1](#)2. On June 16, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. EDT, the Secretary will release the 2009 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report at a press conference in the Department's press briefing room. This release will receive substantial coverage in domestic and foreign news outlets. Until the time of the Secretary's June 16 press conference, any public release of the Report or country narratives contained therein is prohibited.

[1](#)3. The Department is hereby providing Post with advance press guidance to be used on June 16 or thereafter. Also provided is demarche language to be used in informing the Government of Norway of its tier ranking and the TIP Report's imminent release. The text of the TIP Report country narrative is provided, both for use in informing the Government of Norway and in any local media release by Post's public affairs section on June 16 or thereafter. Drawing on information provided below in paras 8 and 9, Post may provide the host government with the text of the TIP Report narrative no earlier than 1200 noon local time Monday June 15 for WHA, AF, EUR, and NEA countries and OOB local time Tuesday June 16 for SCA and EAP posts. Please note, however, that any public release of the Report's information should not/precede the Secretary's release at 10:00 am EDT on June 16.

[1](#)4. The entire TIP Report will be available on-line at www.state.gov/g/tip shortly after the Secretary's June 16 release. Hard copies of the Report will be pouched to posts in all countries appearing on the Report. The Secretary's statement at the June 16 press event, and the statement of and fielding of media questions by G/TIP's Director and Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Ambassador-at-Large Luis CdeBaca, will be available on the Department's website shortly after the June 16 event. Ambassador de Baca will also hold a general briefing for officials of foreign embassies in Washington DC on June 17 at 3:30 pm EDT.

[1](#)5. Action Request: No earlier than 12 noon local time on Monday June 15 for WHA, AF, EUR, and NEA posts and OOB local time on Tuesday June 16 for SCA and EAP posts, please inform the appropriate official in the Government of Norway of the June 16 release of the 2009 TIP Report, drawing on the points in para 9 (at Post's discretion) and including the text of the country narrative provided in para 8. For countries where the State Department has lowered the tier ranking, it is particularly important to advise governments prior to the Report being released in Washington on June 16.

[1](#)6. Action Request continued: Please note that, for those countries which will not receive an "action plan" with specific recommendations for improvement, posts should draw host governments' attention to the areas for improvement identified in the 2009 Report, especially highlighted in the "Recommendations" section of the second paragraph of the narrative text. This engagement is important to establishing the framework in which the government's performance will be

judged for the 2010 Report. If posts have questions about which governments will receive an action plan, or how they may follow up on the recommendations in the 2009 Report, please contact G/TIP and the appropriate regional bureau.

¶7. Action Request continued: On June 16, please be prepared to answer media inquiries on the Report's release using the press guidance provided in para 11. If Post wishes, a local press statement may be released on or after 10:30 am EDT June 16, drawing on the press guidance and the text of the TIP Report's country narrative provided in para 8.

¶8. Begin Final Text of Norway's country narrative in the 2009 TIP Report:

Norway (TIER 1)

Norway is a destination country for women and girls trafficked from Nigeria, Bulgaria, Brazil, Estonia, Ghana, Eritrea, Cameroon, Kenya, and the Democratic Republic of Congo for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. Victims from Africa and Brazil are frequently trafficked through Italy, Spain, Morocco, and the Balkans. Men and children are trafficked from Thailand, the United Kingdom, India, Sri Lanka, Romania, and Bulgaria to Norway for the purposes of domestic servitude and forced labor in the construction industry. Children in Norwegian refugee centers are vulnerable to human trafficking.

The Government of Norway fully complies with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking. During the reporting period, Norway continued to fund anti-trafficking programs in key source countries with grants totaling \$7.4 million including \$600,000 to anti-trafficking programs in Nigeria. The government also improved its victim identification system by publishing new victim identification guidelines in May 2008 and distributing them to all government agencies that may come in contact with potential victims of trafficking; this effort may have led to a 26 percent increase in the number of victims identified. In November 2008, the government amended its immigration law to prohibit the deportation of any victim who testifies in court against a trafficker.

Recommendations for Norway: Continue efforts to vigorously prosecute and convict both sex and labor trafficking offenders; continue to seek appropriate prison sentences for convicted trafficking offenders; and maintain efforts to reduce the domestic demand for commercial sexual exploitation in Norway.

Prosecution

The Norwegian government increased its anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts during the reporting period. Norway prohibits all forms of trafficking in persons through its Crimes Against Personal Freedom Law of 2004, which prescribes a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment) a penalty that is sufficiently stringent and commensurate with punishments for other grave offenses, such as rape. In 2008, police significantly increased the number of trafficking investigations from 19 in 2007 to 45 in 2008*including 41 sex trafficking and four labor trafficking investigations. Norwegian authorities prosecuted five people for sex trafficking and one person for labor trafficking in 2008, compared to a total of six prosecutions in 2007. Six people were convicted of trafficking during the reporting period, compared to six convictions in 2007. All six traffickers were sentenced to some time in prison; no traffickers were given suspended sentences. Sentences imposed on the five convicted sex traffickers ranged from 18 to 36 months' imprisonment. One person convicted of labor trafficking was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment. In 2007, six traffickers were sentenced to 18 to 30 months' imprisonment. Throughout the year, Norwegian law enforcement personnel

collaborated on trafficking investigations with counterparts from numerous countries including the Czech Republic, Albania, Italy, Nigeria, Spain, the United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Romania, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Brazil, and all of the Nordic-Baltic countries.

Protection

The government continued to improve its impressive efforts to identify and protect victims of trafficking during the year. The government identified 256 victims in 2008, an increase from 190 victims identified in 2007. Law enforcement and other government officials referred at least 118 victims for assistance in 2008. Forty-four victims were assisted in 2008, up from 37 victims in 2007. The government provided direct social assistance services to victims as well as funding for assistance provided by anti-trafficking NGOs. In 2008, trafficking victims in Norway had access to shelter, medical care, vocational training, and legal assistance; however, many female victims of forced prostitution were provided shelter in domestic violence shelters rather than in trafficking-specific shelters. Victims are permitted to stay in Norway without conditions during a six-month reflection period in order to receive assistance; 40 victims benefited from the reflection period in 2008 compared to 30 in 2007. After the reflection period, victims can apply for one-year residency permits; in 2008, 15 victims received one-year residency permits. The government encouraged victims to participate in trafficking investigations and prosecutions. Trafficking victims were not penalized during the reporting period for unlawful acts committed as a direct result of their being trafficked.

Prevention

The government continued its trafficking prevention outreach in key source countries while improving awareness efforts in Norway during the reporting period. The government conducted two campaigns aimed at reducing the demand for commercial sex acts; these campaigns were advertised on the internet and in Norwegian airports. Norway criminalized the purchase of sexual services in January 2009, which may have an impact on the demand for commercial sex within Norway. The government briefed all Norwegian troops on human trafficking prior to deployment overseas on international peacekeeping missions and monitored immigration patterns for evidence of trafficking.

19. Post may wish to deliver the following points, which offer technical and legal background on the TIP Report process, to the host government as a non-paper with the above TIP Report country narrative:

(begin non-paper)

-- The U.S. Congress, through its passage of the 2000 Trafficking Victims Protection Act, as amended (TVPA), requires the Secretary of State to submit an annual Report to Congress. The goal of this Report is to stimulate action and create partnerships around the world in the fight against modern-day slavery. The USG approach to combating human trafficking follows the TVPA and the standards set forth in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (commonly known as the "Palermo Protocol"). The TVPA and the Palermo Protocol recognize that this is a crime in which the victims' labor or services (including in the "sex industry") are obtained or maintained through force, fraud, or coercion, whether overt or through psychological manipulation. While much attention has focused on international flows, both the TVPA and the Palermo Protocol focus on the exploitation of the victim, and do not require a showing that the victim was moved.

-- Recent amendments to the TVPA removed the requirement that only countries with a "significant number" of trafficking victims be included in the Report. Beginning with the 2009 TIP Report, countries determined to be a country of origin, transit, or destination for victims of severe forms of trafficking are included in the Report and assigned to one of three tiers. Countries assessed as meeting the "minimum standards for the elimination of severe forms of trafficking" set forth in the TVPA are classified as Tier 1. Countries assessed as not fully complying with the minimum standards, but making significant efforts to meet those minimum standards are classified as Tier 2. Countries assessed as neither complying with the minimum standards nor making significant efforts to do so are classified as Tier 3.

-- The TVPA also requires the Secretary of State to provide a "Special Watch List" to Congress later in the year. Anti-trafficking efforts of the countries on this list are to be evaluated again in an Interim Assessment that the Secretary of State must provide to Congress by February 1 of each year. Countries are included on the "Special Watch List" if they move up in "tier" rankings in the annual TIP Report -- from 3 to 2 or from 2 to 1 -- or if they have been placed on the Tier 2 Watch List.

-- Tier 2 Watch List consists of Tier 2 countries determined: (1) not to have made "increasing efforts" to combat human trafficking over the past year; (2) to be making significant efforts based on commitments of anti-trafficking reforms over the next year, or (3) to have a very significant number of trafficking victims or a significantly increasing victim population. As indicated in reftel B, the TVPRA of 2008 contains a provision requiring that a country that has been included on Tier 2 Watch List for two consecutive years after the date of enactment of the TVPRA of 2008 be ranked as Tier 3. Thus, any automatic downgrade to Tier 3 pursuant to this provision would take place, at the earliest, in the 2011 TIP Report (i.e., a country would have to be ranked Tier 2 Watch List in the 2009 and 2010 Reports before being subject to Tier 3 in the 2011 Report). The new law allows for a waiver of this provision for up to two additional years upon a determination by the President that the country has developed and devoted sufficient resources to a written plan to make significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with the minimum standards.

-- Countries classified as Tier 3 may be subject to statutory restrictions for the subsequent fiscal year on non-humanitarian and non-trade-related foreign assistance and, in some circumstances, withholding of funding for participation by government officials or employees in educational and cultural exchange programs. In addition, the President could instruct the U.S. executive directors to international financial institutions to oppose loans or other utilization of funds (other than for humanitarian, trade-related or certain types of development assistance) with respect to countries on Tier 3. Countries classified as Tier 3 that take strong action within 90 days of the Report's release to show significant efforts against trafficking in persons, and thereby warrant a reassessment of their Tier classification, would avoid such sanctions. Guidelines for such actions are in the DOS-crafted action plans to be shared by Posts with host governments.

-- The 2009 TIP Report, issuing as it does in the midst of the global financial crisis, highlights high levels of trafficking for forced labor in many parts of the world and systemic contributing factors to this phenomenon: fraudulent recruitment practices and excessive recruiting fees in workers' home countries; the lack of adequate labor protections in both sending and receiving countries; and the flawed design of some destination countries' "sponsorship systems" that do not give foreign workers adequate legal recourse when faced with conditions of forced labor. As the May 2009 ILO Global Report on Forced Labor concluded, forced labor victims suffer approximately \$20 billion in losses, and traffickers' profits are estimated at \$31 billion. The

current global financial crisis threatens to increase the number of victims of forced labor and increase the associated "cost of coercion."

-- The text of the TVPA and amendments can be found on website www.state.gov/g/tip.

-- On June 16, 2009, the Secretary of State will release the ninth annual TIP Report in a public event at the State Department. We are providing you an advance copy of your country's narrative in that report. Please keep this information embargoed until 10:00 am Washington DC time June 16. The State Department will also hold a general briefing for officials of foreign embassies in Washington DC on June 17 at 3:30 pm EDT.

(end non-paper)

¶10. Posts should make sure that the relevant country narrative is readily available on or through the Mission's web page in English and appropriate local language(s) as soon as possible after the TIP Report is released. Funding for translation costs will be handled as it was for the Human Rights Report. Posts needing financial assistance for translation costs should contact their regional bureau's EX office.

¶11. The following is press guidance provided for Post to use with local media.

Q1: Why was Norway given a ranking of Tier 1?

A: The Government of Norway fully complies with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.

Q2: What progress has Norway made in the past year?

A: During the reporting period, Norway continued to fund anti-trafficking programs in key source countries with grants totaling \$7.4 million including \$600,000 to anti-trafficking programs in Nigeria. The government also improved its victim identification system by publishing new victim identification guidelines in May 2008 and distributing them to all government agencies that may come in contact with potential victims of trafficking; this effort may have led to a 26 percent increase in the number of victims identified. In November 2008, the government amended its immigration law to prohibit the deportation of any victim who testifies in court against a trafficker.

Q3: What can Norway do to improve its fight against trafficking in persons?

A: To improve its efforts in the coming year, the Norwegian government could: continue efforts to vigorously prosecute and convict both sex and labor trafficking offenders; continue to seek appropriate prison sentences for convicted trafficking offenders; and maintain efforts to reduce the domestic demand for commercial sexual exploitation in Norway.

Q4: What sources does the State Department use for information?

A: The Department of State prepared this Report using information from U.S. embassies, foreign government officials, NGOs and international organizations, published reports, research trips to every region, and information submitted to tipreport@state.gov.

¶12. The Department appreciates posts' assistance with the preceding action requests.
CLINTON